



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	May 21, 2024
TITLE	Authorization to Execute a Contract in the Amount of \$5,386,030 with Falk Forestry for Fuels Management Work in Anthony Chabot Regional Park
DIVISION	Public Safety
FROM	Aileen Theile, Fire Chief Roberto Filice, Assistant General Manager Public Safety
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors award a hazardous fuels management contract to Falk Forestry in the amount of \$5,386,030 to thin 221 acres of dead and declining stands of eucalyptus, brush, and other hazardous wildland fuels in Anthony Chabot Regional Park.

BACKGROUND

In October 2020, approximately 1,500 acres of declining forest health, tree mortality, and dieback were identified in multiple public parklands in the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District). Anthony Chabot Regional Park has 1,250 acres identified for hazardous forest and fuel treatment within the wildland-urban interface.

In 2022, the Park District's Fire Department prepared a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) that described the project, contracting requirements, and treatment of the project area. The Park District published the RFP on its website and sought qualified, experienced vendors. To date, the project has been able to treat 467 acres in 6 units. An additional 365 acres that were described in the RFP and are within the original 1,250 acres require treatment. The previous RFP described that all project funding had not yet been secured at the time that the RFP was posted, and that funding would continue to be sought to treat more of the planned treatment area. This also created a mechanism for the District to continually evaluate the performance of the contract team through the duration of an unprecedented, large project.

In March of 2023, the Board of Directors awarded authorization to Falk Forestry Group for the Climate Change Impact Hazardous Wildland Fuels Reduction Project. Following its good performance and exceeding expectations in the completion of the 365-acre project, the Fire Department is seeking authorization to award an additional 221 acres of the Climate Change Impact Hazardous Wildland Fuels Reduction Project area to the Falk Forestry Group.

ANALYSIS

Under the guidance of Park District staff and following the guidelines of the Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan (WHRMP), Falk Forestry will strategically thin and remove unhealthy and dead stands of eucalyptus, brush, and other vegetation from the project area. Biomass generated from fuels treatment activities will be processed using a carbonator, a specialized biomass processing device that converts woody biomass into biochar, a charcoal-like material that sequesters the carbon

from the biomass in which it was generated. Other traditional methods for processing biomass may be employed when biochar can no longer be utilized regionally.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost of this project is \$5,386,030. Funding sources will include Fuels and Fire Management Project (550000), Fuels Management Die-off Mitigation Project (559000), and Anthony Chabot Fuels Management Project (559600). Additional funds for project 559600 expected to be received from FEMA late summer of 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

None.



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 05 -
MAY 21, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,386,030
WITH FALK FORESTRY FOR FUELS MANAGEMENT WORK IN ANTHONY
CHABOT REGIONAL PARK**

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) Board of Directors certified an Environmental Impact Report for Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan on April 20, 2010, including adopting a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program and a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and a Notice of Determination was filed also on April 20, 2010; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 approximately 1,500 acres of declining forest health, tree mortality and dieback were identified in multiple regional public parklands in the Park District, and

WHEREAS, Falk Forestry successfully treated 445 acres at Anthony Chabot Regional Park, exceeding performance and expectations; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available for this contract in Fuels and Fire Management Projects 550000, 559000, and 559600; and

WHEREAS, the fuel vegetation management will be conducted in alignment with California Governor’s Executive Order for Nature-Based Solutions N-8220 to mitigate and build resiliency to climate change through climate-smart land management; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby awards a contract to Falk Forestry in the amount of \$5,386,030 with funds appropriated to project accounts 550000, 559000, 559600 as presented to the Board on May 21, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Park District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, and adopted May 21, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT: